

Appln. No.: 10/066,138
Amdt. dated October 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 25, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of the claims is to replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1 (Canceled) .

2 (previously presented) . A carrier for an article, comprising:

- (a) a body having a back member;
- (b) an arm having an upper end and a lower end, including a hook facing toward said back member, said upper end being attached to said body;
- (c) an upwardly directed catch carried on said hook;
- (d) a receptacle included in said back member and located opposite said hook, and wherein said hook is latchingly engageable in said receptacle, and said arm is elastically biased to keep said catch engaged in said receptacle; and
- (e) a fulcrum located between said body and said arm and located, with respect to said arm, between said hook and said upper end in a location in which pressure on said arm toward said body

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between said fulcrum and said upper end disengages said hook from said receptacle.

3 (original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said pressure on said arm causes said hook to move through a small angle about said fulcrum as a part of disengaging said hook from said receptacle.

4 (original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said pressure on said arm causes a portion of said arm between said fulcrum and said upper end of said arm to flex toward said body and thereby disengages said catch from said receptacle.

5 (original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said arm is resiliently flexible between said fulcrum and said upper end.

6 (original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said arm has a resiliently flexible portion located between said fulcrum and said upper end.

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7(original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said fulcrum is located on said back member a small distance away from said receptacle and faces toward said arm.

8(original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said fulcrum prevents said arm from moving toward said back member closer than a predetermined position.

9(original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said fulcrum is mounted on said back member and projects toward said arm.

10(original). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said fulcrum is mounted on said arm and projects toward said back member.

11(currently amended). A carrier for an article, comprising:

- (a) a body having a back member, a pair of sides, and a lower end wall, said back member, sides, and lower end wall cooperatively defining a space for receiving an article;

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- (b) an arm having an upper end and a lower end, including a hook facing toward said back member, said upper end being attached to and integral with said body;
- (c) an upwardly directed catch carried on said hook;
- (d) a receptacle included in said back member and located opposite said hook, and wherein said hook is latchingly engageable in said receptacle, and said arm is elastically biased to keep said catch engaged in said receptacle; and wherein said receptacle includes an opening extending through said back member and a portion of said hook including said catch extends through said back member by way of said opening when said hook is engaged in said receptacle.

12 (previously presented). The carrier of claim 11 wherein said receptacle includes a cam surface followed by said hook as said hook is urged into engagement in said receptacle by pressure on said arm directed toward said back member.

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13 (previously presented). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said catch has a first engagement face and wherein said receptacle includes a latch shoulder having a second engagement face, said first and second engagement faces being in mutual contact with each other when said hook is engaged in said receptacle.

14 (previously presented). The carrier of claim 13 wherein said arm moves said hook, thereby moving said first engagement face out of engagement with said second engagement face and moving said catch clear of said shoulder, when said arm is flexed by being pressed toward said back member between said fulcrum and said upper end of said arm.

15 (previously presented). A carrier for an article, comprising:

- (a) a back member;
- (b) a pair of side members constructed of a stiff but resiliently flexible material;
- (c) a lower end wall, said back, said side members, and said lower end wall cooperatively defining a tool-receiving space;

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- (d) a mounting device attached to a rear side of said back member to mount the carrier on a person's clothing;
- (e) an inwardly-projecting grip member carried on one of said side members; and
- (f) an ear extending laterally outward from one of said side members in position to be engaged by one's hand in connection with removing an article from said carrier.

16(original). The carrier of claim 15, including a respective inwardly-projecting grip member carried on each of said side members.

17(original). The carrier of claim 16 wherein said grip members are aligned opposite each other and facing toward each other.

18(original). The carrier of claim 16 wherein said grip members are spaced outwardly apart from said back member.

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19(original). The carrier of claim 16 wherein said grip members are located upwardly apart from said lower end wall.

20(original). The carrier of claim 16 wherein said side members have respective upper ends and said grip members are located adjacent said upper ends.

21(cancelled).

22(previously presented). The carrier of claim 15 wherein said lower end wall defines a tool access opening and said ear extends laterally outward from a location adjacent said grip member.

23(previously amended). The carrier of claim 15 wherein said mounting device includes: an arm having an upper end and a lower end, said lower end including a hook facing toward said back member and said upper end being attached to said back member; an upwardly directed catch carried on said hook; and a receptacle included in said back member and located opposite said hook; and wherein said hook is latchingly engageable in said

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receptacle and said arm is elastically biased to keep said catch engaged in said receptacle.

24 (original). The carrier of claim 15 in combination with a tool having a pair of outwardly-facing relatively depressed surfaces.

25 (previously amended). A carrier for an article, comprising:

- (a) a back member;
- (b) a pair of side members, each including a laterally outwardly projecting ear;
- (c) a lower end wall, said back member, said side members, and said lower end wall cooperatively defining an upwardly open tool-receiving space;
- (d) a mounting device attached to a rear side of said back member; and
- (e) a tool access opening defined in said lower end wall.

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26 (previously presented). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said receptacle includes an opening extending through said back member.

27 (previously presented). The carrier of claim 2 wherein said receptacle includes a cam surface followed by said hook as said hook is urged into engagement in said receptacle by pressure on said arm directed toward said back member.

28 (previously presented). A carrier for an article, comprising:

- (a) a back member;
- (b) a pair of side members constructed of a stiff but resiliently flexible material;
- (c) a lower end wall, said back, said side members, and said lower end wall cooperatively defining a tool-receiving space;
- (d) an inwardly-projecting grip member carried on one of said side members and an ear extending laterally outward from said side member adjacent said grip member;

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- (e) a mounting device attached to a rear side of said back member to mount the carrier on a person's clothing; and
- (f) a tool access opening defined in said lower end wall.

29 (previously amended). The carrier of claim 28 wherein said mounting device includes an arm having an upper end and a lower end, said lower end including a hook facing toward said back member and said upper end being attached to said back member, an upwardly directed catch being carried on said hook, and a receptacle being included in said back member and located opposite said hook, and wherein said hook is latchingly engageable in said receptacle and said arm is elastically biased to keep said catch engaged in said receptacle.